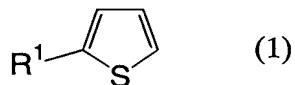
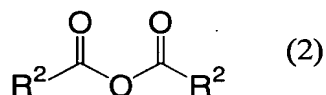


ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a process for producing a 2-acylthiophene compound which has a low content of the 3-
 5 isomer generated as a by-product, the process comprising reacting a thiophene compound represented by formula (1):



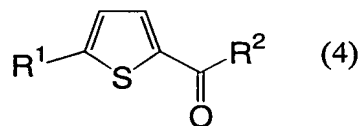
wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a phenyl group, or a halogen atom, with at least one member selected from the
 10 group consisting of acid anhydrides represented by formula (2):



wherein R^2 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a phenyl group, and acid halides represented by formula (3):



15 wherein R^2 is as defined above and X is a halogen atom, in the presence of a solid acid catalyst at a temperature less than 75°C in the absence of solvent, thus producing a 2-acylthiophene compound represented by formula (4):



20 wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined above.